



NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Roger D. Breed, Ed.D., Commissioner
Scott Swisher, Ed.D., Deputy Commissioner

301 Centennial Mall South ■ P.O. Box 94987 ■ Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4987
Telephone: 402-471-2295 (Voice/TDD) ■ Fax: 402-471-0117
<http://www.nde.state.ne.us>

January 2010

TO: Nebraska School System Superintendents and ESU Administrators

FROM: Vickie Scow, Director, World Language Education
Donlynn Rice, Administrator, Curriculum/Instruction

SUBJECT: Visiting Teacher from Spain Program

The **Visiting Teacher from Spain Program** is being offered by the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) and the Ministry of Education and Culture of Spain (MEC). We continue to experience shortages of world language teachers throughout the state, and the Visiting Teacher from Spain Program provides local school districts with the opportunity to fill vacant Spanish teaching positions. With this program, Nebraska school systems have the option of recruiting highly qualified Spanish educators for a period of up to three years and at the same time provide Nebraska students, parents, and communities the opportunity to work with professionals from other countries. Visiting teachers from Spain are certified Spanish language educators with at least three years of experience. Local school districts hire the visiting teachers in accordance with all other local policies in terms of salary scale, certification, and local system requirements.

This program strives to:

- Promote cultural and educational relations that will benefit the State of Nebraska and Spain
- Foster knowledge and appreciation of the culture shared by these two global communities
- Foster an educational environment that supports both students and teachers in their continued and future effort toward personal, academic, and professional success

NDE will host a five-day orientation session for all first-year visiting teachers. Orientation activities include obtaining a social-security card, applying for a teaching certificate, and training in the code of ethics, technology resources, distance learning, Nebraska Foreign Language Frameworks, curriculum planning, assessment, instructional strategies/best practices, culture comparisons, school expectations, and classroom management. The orientation will be followed by a fall retreat to resolve challenges and concerns. NDE will assess a \$1200 fee per teacher to participating districts to cover food, lodging, and materials for the orientation training and follow-up weekend retreat.

Please disseminate this information to the school principals or respective officials in charge of hiring. If your school district is in need of a qualified Spanish teacher and might be interested in the program, please complete the Application of Intent survey, which is accessible online at www.education.ne.gov/forlg/VisitingTeachers.htm. This is an Application of Intent only and expresses a local school district's interest in participating in the Visiting Teacher from Spain Program for the 2010-2011 school year. It does not obligate the local school system to hire teachers from Spain. All Applications of Intent must be returned to the Nebraska Department of Education by **April 1, 2010**, to be considered. A detailed explanation of the Visiting Teacher from Spain Program and information about a variety of programs available to local school systems is also available online.

If you have any questions, please contact Vickie Scow, Director of World Language, by phone at 402-471-4331 or e-mail vickie.scow@nebraska.gov. Thank you for your interest in this program and for your continuing support of world language programs in Nebraska.

Vickie Scow
Vickie Scow, Director
World Language Education

Donlynn C. Rice
Donlynn Rice, Administrator
Curriculum/Instruction

State Board of Education

Kandy Imes
President
District 7
1850 20th Street
Gering, NE 69341

Jim Scheer
Vice President
District 3
P.O. Box 16
Norfolk, NE 68702

Robert Evnen
District 1
301 South 13th Street
Suite 500
Lincoln, NE 68508

Kerry T. Winterer
District 2
12388 Rose Lane
Omaha, NE 68154

Rebecca Valdez
District 4
3922 South 23rd Street
Omaha, NE 68107

Patricia H. Timm
District 5
1020 North 21st Street
Beatrice, NE 68310

Fred Meyer
District 6
1580 Highway 281
St. Paul, NE 68873

Joe Higgins
District 8
5067 South 107th Street
Omaha, NE 68127